

As Christians, we are called to be witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ and to testify on His behalf. And our witness is even more essential than in a criminal trial, our Christian witness may affect the lives of those around us for eternity! A poor witness could effectively consign an unsaved acquaintance to face the guilty verdict before God's Great White Throne. We Christians must accurately and skillfully bear witness to Christ so that we can reach the unsaved with the Gospel. But how do we do that?

The Acts 2:47 Model

#1 Praising God

#2 Having Favor with the people of the world

#3 God adds to the church

The Acts 1:8 Commission

Jerusalem – Reach my hometown and my culture

Judea – Reach my country and my culture

Samaria – Reach their community and their divergent culture

Ends of the Earth – Reach their countries which are culturally diverse

In the Public Square 46

- Let the world see the church in harmony

What the general public knows about us does affect us.

Reputation is what people think about us.

In its infancy, the early church was considered a part of Judaism Early Christianity did not divorce itself from the public square

The Church must reenter the Public Square if we are to be effective

We must get our name and good reputation into the community

In the neighborhood 46

- Let your neighbors see you live a life of fullness

The early church had a fellowship marked by gratitude and genuineness

Their ate their food with gladness.

It is often just as sacred to laugh as it is to pray or preach

They did things simply and genuinely.

When they threw a party, it didn't have to be elaborate

They were satisfied and grateful with whatever they had

We must rediscover Christian hospitality

In the individual 47

Let everyone see your overflowing heart

Character is what you really are deep down inside!

Is your heart overflowing with the joy of the Lord Jesus Christ?

When you have the joy of the Lord, it makes people hungry for God

And by the way, you can't have a good public image if your heart isn't right. You can't impact your neighborhood until you begin to overflow with enthusiasm for God. If we are going to impact the neighborhood and the public square, it's got to start in your heart. We as a group are only as good as you are. We are never greater than the individual. If it's going to work, it's got to work in you! In the end the only all-conquering argument is the argument of a Christian life. Live it!